

NEWS RELEASE

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**“YOUR LANDS – YOUR HANDS”
UTAH’S FIRST PUBLIC LANDS CLEANUP**

Utahns will join hundreds of thousands of people around the world to clean trash and debris from shorelines and waterways in Utah’s inaugural public lands cleanup on Saturday, September 16th from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. “Your Lands – Your Hands” is being conducted in association with The Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup and the 2006 Jordan River Cleanup Campaign.

Join the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Great Salt Lake keepers and The Living Planet Aquarium at Saltair Resort/Great Salt Lake State Park, Jordan River at 114th South and Fremont Avenue, and Lindon Marina on Utah Lake. The public is invited to lend a hand to the cause of clean oceans and waterways. Participants will receive a free tee shirt and lunch. Bags, gloves and water will be provided.

“If you’ve ever been appalled by the trash you’ve seen on the shores of our lakes and rivers this is your chance to effect change,” said Ben Bloodworth, coordinator of the event for the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. “This is a great opportunity for anyone concerned about clean water and wildlife to take action.”

With “Your Lands – Your Hands” Utahns will join with more than 300,000 people in 90 countries in not only gathering trash, but keeping a record of the debris that’s picked up. That information is then provided to The Ocean Conservancy who compile the information, analyze it, and create a report that will help educate the public, business, industry and government officials about marine and inland waterway debris issues.

The Coastal Cleanup began in 1986 with a local event held on a Texas beach, and has now grown to the largest event of its kind. REI, Chevron, Patagonia and Take Pride in Utah sponsor “Your Lands – Your Hands.” For more information call 801.537.3371, or go online at www.coastalcleanup.org.

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